



The Southeast News

VOLUME 15, NO. 2

DECEMBER 1966

A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL!

A little boy, six years old, was riding the elevator to the top floor of the Empire State Building in New York City. As the elevator shot upward, he yanked on the hand of his father and asked, "Does God know we're coming?"

Advent is the season before Christmas. We should reverse the question the little boy asked and ask, "Do WE know that God is coming?"

This is the season in which we prepare for His coming. We prepare for everything else except His coming in the person of Jesus Christ, His Son. We have our Christmas shopping, our family gatherings, our Christmas decorations and our gifts. Do they prepare us for the coming of God?

The ancient prophet Isaiah depicted the joy of those who prepare for the coming of God. "Lift up your eyes, look; Behold your God: He comes to save you." (Isaiah 35:4)

It is in this spirit that we greet you and wish for you a Joyous Christmas.

*Leslie Beall
Dora C. Brackin
Frederick A. Meyer
Hubert Richter*

*William J. Andes
Wilmer L. McCord
Emilie F. Pitcock*

*Guy L. Colbert
Jesse H. Dollar*

NEWS FROM OUR NEW CHURCHES IN THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

Langdale Cong'l Christian:

The Congregational Christian Church of Langdale, Ala. (United Church), facing the largest budget in its history, has just concluded an Every-Member-Enlistment, resulting in the budget being pledged well "over the top." This means that they face 1967 with assurance that their full program will be carried through. They are also finishing the third story of their splendid parsonage, making it one of the nicest parsonages in the conference. The Rev. Allen B. Hollis Jr. is pastor of the church.

* * *

Roanoke, Lowell:

The Lowell Congregational Christian Church, Roanoke, Alabama, under the leadership of its new pastor, the Rev. Ralph D. Worley, has just purchased a new parsonage. The minister and his family hope to spend a happy, comfortable Christmas in the new home.

Mr. Worley has been accepted with enthusiasm by the entire congregation and fine progress is assured.

* * *

West Point, Bethel:

This Congregational church has finished the extensive renovation program started under the leadership of the Rev. Bill Hodnett. The sanctuary has been completely refinished with hardwood flooring, new plastering and painting, new pews and pulpit furniture, new windows, plus considerable improvements in the Educational Building.

Mr. Hodnett resigned some months ago, and the church called the Rev. A. C. Nelson, a veteran pastor, who is taking on the work with enthusiasm. They plan an Every-Member-Enlistment on December 18, 1966.

* * *

Shawmut, Todd:

Todd Church had been without a pastor for several months when they called the Rev. Bill Hodnett. Under the devoted leadership of the new pastor

Men Of Lowell Church, Roanoke, Ala., Hold Meeting

The men of the Lowell Congregational Christian Church were hosts on Saturday night, November 26, 1966, for the quarterly meeting of the Churchmen's Fellowship of the East Alabama Association.

The group of forty-eight men, representing several churches, began their meeting by enjoying a delicious dinner of chicken and dressing, with all the trimmings.

After the dinner, the men enjoyed an inspiring talk on the "Unity of the Community and Church" by the Conference Minister, Dr. William J. Andes, of Atlanta, Georgia.

Following the address a short business session was held, after which the men voted to adjourn until their next quarterly meeting.

* * *

Todd Church Has Annual Sing

Regular Fifth Sunday Sing was held at Todd Congregational Christian Church, Shawmut, Alabama, on October 30th. On each fifth Sunday, the United Church of Christ churches of the Valley have been meeting for several years at one of the five churches on a rotating system, with the choir of each participating church singing two numbers.

On October 30th, the choirs of Langdale, Todd, Lanett, and Bethel, West Point, furnished special music. The Conference Minister, Dr. William J. Andes, spoke briefly before the choirs sang. Special visitors with Dr. Andes were Mrs. Andes, Rev. and Mrs. Edward Smallwood of Columbus, Rev. Emilie Pitcock and Miss Nettie Pitcock. The next sing is in January.

we expect solid progress in this church.

* * *

Montgomery, United:

This church has just purchased a new parsonage, close to the church property, making the work of its minister easier to perform, since in the past he has lived some five miles from the church.

The Rev. John L. Martin and his capable wife are doing splendid work.

News Of Lanett Church

Lanett Church observed Laity Sunday October 23rd.

Mr. Lawrence Moncus, chairman of the Board of Deacons, led the worship service, while Mrs. A. D. Harry, daughter of a former pastor, Rev. John Dollar, gave the morning message, using as her topic, "A Fuller Measure of Our Potential." Mrs. Allen B. Hollis Jr., wife of the minister at Langdale Church, sang a solo. There was an ingathering of the Family Thank Offering.

Mrs. Gwen Holley was the speaker in the evening. Members of the Women's and Churchmen's Fellowships made up the choir for the day.

On October 29th, Lanett Church was host for World Community Day, sponsored by the Lanett Council of United Church Women. In addition to an offering, personal hygiene kits were given for Southeast Asia.

Mrs. Gwen Holley of the Lanett Church is president of the Council for next year.

GREETINGS FROM

ROBERT B. SAUNDERS

Bob Saunders, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allan B. Saunders, sends his greetings to the Southeast Conference from Pittsfield, Maine, where he is the pastor of the First Congregational Church. Bob graduated from Elon College in North Carolina, and from Andover Newton Seminary in Boston.

The Saunders family has lived in our Southeast area. They have been members of our Chattanooga and Birmingham Pilgrim Churches. Mr. and Mrs. Allan B. Saunders now live at 811 Locust Street, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601.

The congregation is growing, and they are offering many new facets of service and programming to this fine city.

News From The Churches Of The Southeast Conference

It's Christmas Time!

By DR. A. R. VAN CLEAVE

Lord Tennyson said, "The time draws near the birth of Christ," and we say, "It's Christmas time." And none can measure the lift of spirit that comes with such a thought or such an exclamation! It surely is a witness that so many people, people of diverse speech, race, land and custom, share in the thrill that comes with this Christmas Season. As Phillips Brooks said it, "Christmas in lands of the fir tree and pine, Christmas in lands of the palm tree and vine."

We know, everyone of us, how greatly we need the coming of this Holy Season. Our world seems so shabby today! Bigotry, ill will, hatred, bitterness, rioting and war seem universally to mar our human lot! We are almost to the point of despair for peace, cooperation and good will. Into such a world there comes again the sound of Christmas carols. We read again the stories of the Shepherds and the Wise Men of that ancient day. We think again of a Christ-child born in a manger. We hear again the voice of angels as they sing of peace on earth and good will among men. We are reminded again of the love of God and the wisdom of God.

As we come to such a time, even in a world like ours, we feel a surge of faith and hope and love within our hearts. Once more we see the needs of those about us and our hearts go out in compassion to them. Our whole world seems suddenly to arrive at a moment of sanity. We, in this moment of clear vision and deep understanding, see what our world ought to be. We have again the faith to believe that through Him, a baby born in a manger, but now the Risen Christ, the world that ought to be — can be. We promise Him that we will follow in His way.

So may this season be for all of us a time of genuine renewal. May the deep and abiding faith and hope that come only with such a season be ours. May we dust off old loves and find a multitude of new ones. May the Risen

Rev. John E. Rhodes Is Installed

A Service of Installation was held on Sunday, October 20, at First Church in Phenix City, Alabama, for Rev. John E. Rhodes, who began his work as pastor of that church October 2nd.

The service was attended by members of the Phenix City Church, as well as representatives of the Southeast Conference and the East Alabama Association. In addition to those taking part in the service, guests included Mrs. William J. Andes, Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock, Miss Nettie Pitcock, Mrs. Rhodes, mother of John, Mr. H. Paul Beard, and Rev. Warren Blankenhorn.

Rev. W. Walter Hall, moderator of East Alabama Association, led the service, assisted by the following: Rev. Edward Smallwood gave the invocation, Mr. Charles Tracy read the scripture, Mr. Shelton Harden sang a solo, Dr. Jesse Dollar gave the installation prayer and welcome. Dr. W. J. Andes gave the charge, and Mr. Henry Cook extended welcome from the church. Rev. Allen B. Hollis gave the sermon.

Following the service, the new pastor, along with his wife and three children, received the visitors and friends at a reception and open house held at the parsonage by the women of the church.

Lord abide in our hearts.

"It isn't far to Bethlehem town!
It's anywhere that Christ comes down
And finds in people's friendly face
A welcome and abiding place.
The road to Bethlehem runs right
through
The homes of folks like me and you."

—Madeleine Sweeny Miller

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Rev. and Mrs. Andy Anderson, who are the proud parents of a daughter, Karen, born November 21, 1966. Andy is serving as minister of the Antioch and First Churches in Andalusia, Alabama.

Pilgrim S. S. Class

Studies Community Needs

The Keese Adult Sunday School Class of Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, is studying the book, "Need Is Our Neighbor," in the United Church curriculum.

In order to relate the study to this community, leaders of the city have been invited to take part in the discussion. Roy Batchelor has spoken on "Poverty and the Headstart Program" and Ron Osborne, Executive Director of the Boys' Club, has outlined his work. Miss Sue Lee spoke and brought the story of the City Bureau of Relief, and William Galbraith spoke of the work of the Family Service Agency.

Members of the class feel that "We must find a way to help rid our community of festering pockets of poverty." "These presentations will make all of us more aware and help to stress our participation in this undertaking," Mrs. Fred Muhleman, leader in the class, stated.

Soddy Congregational

Church Plans Traditional

Christmas Program

The Soddy Congregational Church of Soddy, Tennessee, plans a Christmas program that has been a tradition in the church for some thirty-five years. This year the program will consist of a play, "The Three Gifts of Christmas," with children of all ages taking part. Then there will be a candle-lighting service, with each child lighting a candle from a large, central candle placed on the altar; and then all the favorite Christmas carols are sung.

All this is followed by a social hour, a visit from Santa Claus, a Christmas tree, and each child receives a gift from his Sunday School teacher, and a treat of fruit and candy from the church.

Juanita D. Smith

Clarence H. Elliott

News From The Churches Of The Southeast Conference

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Harvest Home Festival

At Evergreen Church

The pastor, Rev. Algynon Reid, and members of the Evergreen Congregational Church at Beachton, Georgia, report that the Yearly Harvest Home Festival was held at the church November 21-23, 1966. During Thanksgiving season the church was decorated with harvest colors.

The first night was "Men's Night," with Rev. Frank Monroe in charge of the service. The second night was "Ladies' Night," and Mrs. Ramona Hill was the chairman, with Mrs. James Crutcher of Tallahassee, Florida, as guest speaker. The third night was "Youth Night." Mrs. Jannie Robinson was chairman and Mrs. Margie Grant was the guest speaker.

Mrs. Doc Hadley, Secretary

Youth Session To Be Held At Camp Calvin

Registration forms have been mailed for the Youth Training Session to be held at Camp Calvin, Hampton, Ga. Registration begins at 1 p. m. Tuesday, December 27, with sessions continuing through lunch Thursday, December 29. Registration is limited to the first thirty-four who sign up to stay overnight. Cost per person is \$6.00, the low amount being made possible because some of our associations are helping to underwrite the total cost.

St. John's Church, Cullman, Alabama

Confirmation class is held on Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 a. m. Each time we open with devotions. We are reading the Bible and learning the Ten Commandments. In confirmation Rev. Harold A. Schulz gave each of us names and addresses of missionaries to write to. Peggy Graves wrote to Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Braun in Ecuador, and when she received her answer she read it to the class. We hope everyone will soon receive their answers as they are very interesting.

Donna Mack

COLLEGE STUDENT SUNDAY

College Student Sunday will be held January 1, 1967, when the following students will appear in this All-College Student Hour of Worship: Cindy Daussman and Jean McLemore, University of Alabama; Connie Rich, Alverton-Draughon School; Betsy Richter, Alabama College; Susanne Richter, Jack Richter, Florence State; Douglas Bennett, Kermit Butler, Curtis Peinhardt, St. Bernard; Fred Klein, West Point Academy; Bill Keller and Bill Peinhardt, Auburn University.

On December 18, 1966, "The Music of Christmas" will be heard in St. John's.

1. Holy Night
2. He Shall Feed His Flock
3. Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
4. O Little Town of Bethlehem
5. Good Tidings
6. Glory Be To God
7. The Magi
8. Little Lord Jesus
9. In Our Hearts
10. The Living Song

HAIKU AT CHRISTMAS

How long had angels
been practicing Hosannas?
They had no song books . . .
A whole world waited
for the birth of the Messiah . . .
no room in the inn.
A star still shining,

Pilgrim, Chattanooga, Observes Anniversary

On Sunday, December 4, 1966, the Pilgrim Congregational Church (U. C. C.) observed its 52nd anniversary, honoring seven charter members living in Chattanooga: Mesdames Winifred Brown, J. M. Gager Sr., R. E. Houston, Paul W. Shepherd Sr., Stella Wietzel, Miss Anna Grace Roberts, and Louis M. Mullinix. All but one of these were present at the 11 o'clock worship service.

Special guests for the 11 a. m. worship service were Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Andes. Dr. Andes, Conference Minister, gave the sermon, using as his topic "Christians on the Move." The choir sang "Immortal Babe" by L. Forsblad. Following the worship, a coffee hour was held in honor of the charter members.

The young people's group sponsored a pancake supper at 6 p. m. in the social room, to which members and friends were invited.

Since the organization of the church in 1914, there have been five ministers. The present minister, Rev. Arnold Slater, was called to the pulpit in 1944. He and Mrs. Slater begin their 23rd year of service to the church and community with this observance. The church moderator is Joseph Lewis.

Through the years, Pilgrim Church has registered an interest in the cultural and social life of the city. The educational facilities of the church are made available without cost to the United Cerebral Palsy Chapter of greater Chattanooga and several other groups use the building upon request.

The Rev. Richard M. Mapes, Director of Field Education at the Divinity School of Vanderbilt University, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Lay Life and Work Fellowship on December 7th.

a journey still to be made
the love is for all.

Elizabeth Searle Lamb

News From The Churches Of The Southeast Conference

Advent And Incarnation The Absolute Mystery Of Christmas

No one should ever do anything without first invoking the presence of God.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, listen attentively to my supplications; in Thy faithfulness answer me, and in Thy righteousness.

And enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

I stretch forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee.

Hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like those who do not know the joy of Thy Salvation.

Cause me to hear Thy loving kindness in the morning; for in Thee do I trust; cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto Thee.

Teach me to DO Thy will; for Thou art my God. Amen. (Adapted from 143rd Psalm).

The Advent took place at a time of widespread spiritual poverty and pessimism; social unrest; moral decay and religious bankruptcy. A world much like our own; with its premium on material gifts, so-called "new morality," and the things the physical body can enjoy. Where is that reverential fear and devotion to God upon which our Church and our Country were founded? In Christian Doctrine there are three key words: The Incarnation, the Atonement, and the Resurrection. Without the advent of God, in the Person of His Son, into this depraved and dying World, the reconciling love of God for rebellious and sinful man could not have taken place.

As we realize that the suffering and atonement of Christ is the only basis for our forgiveness and restoration to the loving arms of the Father, we should sing out with Mary the wonderful hymn of the Magnificat:

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of

Paul A. Boyce Joins Peace Corps

Paul A. Boyce, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Boyce, 1012 Old Mail Road, Crossville, Tennessee, left Saturday, September 24, 1966, from Kennedy Airport for Hyderabad, India, as a member of the Peace Corps.

From June 20th until September 12th he was at William College, Williamstown, Massachusetts, for intensive study in applied nutrition program with the Peace Corps in Andhra Pradesh, India. There was special emphasis in language, Telugu History, Customs and background of India, poultry, gardening, health and nutrition. The staff members were some returned Peace Corps veterans and Indians from this area.

Teams will be sent to small villages to help the local people improve food conditions. Paul has been assigned to a fishing project. While he was at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute at Cookeville, his major was Wild Life Management.

the Lord,

Rejoice, rejoice, my spirit, in God, my Saviour . . .

May every gift and every greeting that is sent or received this Season serve but to remind us that: "God so loved the World that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

May the trumpet of the Lord sound clear and certain in every pulpit and every Sunday School as we face the grave spiritual and moral issues of our day. May we always do it to the praise and glory of His Holy Name.

Guy L. Colbert, Pastor-at-Large
North Alabama Association

The Rev. Dr. Colbert recommends the following for devotional reading during Advent: Nels Ferre's "Strengthening the Spiritual Life," Luther's

Received Into The North Alabama Association

When the North Alabama Association met at the Caddo Church on October 1, 1966, the following young men from the Town Creek, Old Liberty Grove Church were received into the care of the association and granted a license to preach in the churches of the association:

Roger Dale Loosier
Rt. 3, Box 265
Town Creek, Alabama

Banford Brewington
Route 4
Moulton, Alabama

Roy Tiller Bain
Route 3
Town Creek, Alabama

Larry Veto Compton
Box J
Town Creek, Alabama

Thomas T. Gibson
Route 2
Town Creek, Alabama

Rev. Richard M. Waugh is the pastor of the church, and was a very happy person to have these young men presented as candidates for the ministry.

Robert Hadley In The Peace Corps

Peace Corps SP4 Robert Hadley, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Doc Hadley, is a member of the Evergreen Congregational Church at Beachton, Georgia. Mr. Hadley is a twenty-six-year-old veteran Peace Corps volunteer and is now an S-1 clerk at Hq. Msl. Bn. 71st Artillery. He graduated from Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama, with an M. A. degree in history. He taught social studies in high school, and then served for nineteen months in the Peace Corps in Brazil.

"Christian Liberty," Barth's "Dogmatics in Outline," Angus Dun's "The Saving Person."

The Mission Of The Church

By REV. HORACE S. SILLS

Speaking before the Georgia-South Carolina Association in annual session, Oct. 14, 1966, Rev. Horace Sills of the Town and Country Department, Board of Homeland Ministries, challenged the delegates to be worthy of the challenge:

"Ye are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who calls you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

"We are God's own people, commissioned to God's own work," he said. "Can we achieve the heights of such perfection in that which we know to be the church today? Can we hope to accomplish the purposes of Christ in our presently organized efforts in the church? We cannot permit our churches to be swamped by the tidal waves of a changing society and be left in the devastating wake of this onslaught because of jealousies, traditionalism, misguided motives of those who cannot see or will not see change.

An unknown author has put to rhyme this sad and weary tale of such foolish shortsightedness:

THE CALF PATH

One day through the primeval wood
A calf walked home as good calves
should;

But made a trail all bent askew,
A crooked trail as calves all do.

Since then three hundred years have
fled,
And I infer the calf is dead.

But still he left behind his trail,
And thereby hangs my moral tale.

The trail was taken up next day
By a lone dog that passed that way;

And then a wise bellwether sheep
Pursued the trail o'er vale and steep

And drew the flock behind him, too,

As good bellwethers always do.

And from that day, o'er hill and glade
Through these old woods a path was
made.

And many men wound in and out,
And dodged and turned and bent about,

And uttered words of righteous wrath
Because 'twas such a crooked path;

But still they followed — do not laugh,
The first migrations of that calf.

This forest path became a lane,
That bent and turned and turned again.

This crooked lane became a road,
Where many a poor horse with his load

Toiled on beneath the burning sun
And traveled some three miles in one.

And thus a century and a half
They trod the footsteps of that calf.

The years passed on in swiftness fleet;
The road became a village street;

And this, before men were aware,
A city's crowded thoroughfare.

And soon the central street was this
Of a renowned metropolis.

And men two centuries and a half
Trod in the footsteps of that calf.

A hundred thousand men were led
By one calf near three centuries dead.

For men are prone to go it blind
Along the calf-paths of the mind,

And work away from sun to sun
To do what other men have done.

They follow in the beaten track,
And out and in, and forth and back,

And still their devious course pursue,
To keep the path that others do.

They keep the path a sacred groove
Along which all their lives they move.

But how the wise old wood gods laugh
Who saw the first primeval calf!

Christian Education

Workshop In Nashville

A "Design for Christian Education" Workshop, held in Nashville, Tennessee, November 8-11, 1966, included five churches using the United Church curriculum. Leaders included Miss Florence Vail of the Children's Ministry staff, Philadelphia; Bob Crosby, staff member of the Methodist Board of Education; and Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock, of the Southeast Conference. Sessions were held at First Church and Brookmeade Church.

On the opening evening, during a presentation of an over-all view of the United Church Curriculum, participants were encouraged to raise questions about the need for such a curriculum, as well as theological and educational principles. The leaders also sought to help interpret how the various courses contributed to a well-rounded experience of the Gospel.

For an hour each day for three days demonstration classes were taught, with Miss Vail teaching kindergarten children at Brookmeade Church and Miss Pitcock teaching lower junior children at First Church. Prior to each session the leaders met with adult observers to go over plans for the day; after the hour-long class, the leaders again met with the observers to evaluate the session and to deal with any questions.

On the evenings of November 9 and 10, Bob Crosby led senior high youth and adults in interpreting issues with which youth are concerned and in understanding the youth ministry of the church. Involved by the use of group dynamic techniques, all people attending found opportunity to express their concerns and possible beginnings of resolving some of the issues.

This workshop venture of the Nashville churches might suggest a possible course of action for other churches in the Southeast Conference.

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to

The United Church Herald

Southern Union Begins Third Year As State Owned College

At the beginning of its third year as a state owned and operated college, Southern Union State Junior College reports that in addition to paying all bills, a surplus of \$59,067 was carried over. The total budget for 1966-67 is set at \$468,000, with a state allocation of \$263,800. Salaries will approximate \$300,000, with scholarship needs about \$12,000 for 54 students being helped. For library books, \$63,795 is available. The most noticeable change on the campus is completion of the dam.

There are 26 members of the faculty, with 7 part-time, and 16 holding Master's degrees. Faculty salaries have been raised 10% by the State Department and the State Board of Education. Those who do not now have a Master's degree are either working on it or will have to look for another position before Fall, 1967.

There are 36 people on the staff this year, including 5 bus drivers — an increase of 7 over last year. Mr. J. T. Edge is giving full time in charge of new buildings, transportation, and serving as coordinator of federal programs.

Mr. Ralph Savage is new Dean of Administrative Services, while Mr. Bobby Welch, a graduate of Southern Union, is new Dean of Students.

Enrollment figures reveal a total of 423, with 320 freshmen and 103 sophomores. There are 92 boarding students, with 341 commuting students. Of these, 18 are girls in Pilgrim Hall dorm. The student body is integrated for the first time in the history of the college, there being two Negro students from Wedowee commuting.

President Graham says, "Our greatest need for the present and future is mostly to 'keep on keeping on,' work-

Ministers' Convocation To Be Held In January, 1967

There will be Convocation for all the ministers of the Southeast Conference area at Camp Calvin, Hampton, Ga. (near Atlanta), January 23-25, 1966. The Rev. Horace S. Sills and Mrs. F. C. Lester will be the guest leaders.

Full information and registration blanks will be sent to each minister well in advance of the dates for the Convocation. All ministers in this area are urged to attend.

ing on accreditation, upgrading faculty and staff in every possible way, raising money for scholarships, getting construction of two new buildings underway, constructing a new dorm for men and women with a new dining hall included, and live within our new budget limitations for this fiscal year."

All space on the campus is being used to capacity, and part of a store building in the middle of Wadley has been rented to meet classroom needs. Provided the Federal Government grants the request for 30% additional funds to be added to those made available by State Legislature and the Junior College Authority, sufficient funds to build and equip the administration building and the multi-use building will be in hand.

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God's Word For A New Age

The American Bible Society in celebrating its 150th Anniversary, calls upon the churches to help supply a spiritually-hungry world with more than 75 million Scriptures each year. What a contrast to Voltaire's prediction that the Bible would be extinct in 100 years! He called the Bible an "exploded book."

Today, less than 200 years since Voltaire's death, at least one book of the Bible is available in 1,250 languages and dialects to help meet the spiritual hunger of millions, including new literates, in the world's emerging nations.

Since World War II when a lonely Marine on Guadalcanal sparked the idea by asking his parents to join him in reading the same Scripture passage each day, the American Bible Society has developed the Worldwide Bible Reading program around the globe from Thanksgiving through Christmas. This year, thousands of servicemen in Vietnam expect to participate as did their counterparts during World War I and the Korean conflict.

Worldwide Bible Reading book-marks, containing a calendar and daily Bible selections, are offered free by the American Bible Society. Pastors of our churches in the Southeast Conference can order posters, bookmarks, offering envelopes and bulletin insert sheets by writing the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10023. Enclose \$1.00 for Worldwide Bible Reading costs.

This year's reading begins with Psalm 145 on Thanksgiving and concludes with Luke 2:1-20 on Christmas. May we find God's Word for our New Age.

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The Veterans of the Cross, retired ministers and their wives or their widows, are held affectionately in the care of the churches. For many of these, pensions or small salaries, rendered less in purchasing power by inflation, are inadequate, in times of emergency and crisis. The Christmas Fund goes into action with Christmas checks and with a year round ministry of emergency grants.

Send contributions either to the national boards, or through your Southeast Conference Office, 673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E., Atlanta, Ga. 30308.